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Noted sports author to give keynote at Dick Joyce Sports Symposium

Acclaimed sports writer Mark Kriegel is the keynote speaker at this month's Dick Joyce Sports Symposium at St. Bonaventure University.

Free and open to the public, the symposium begins at 2 p.m. Tuesday, April 21, in the auditorium of the new William F. Walsh Science Center. This year's topic is "How Television Views and Covers Sports."

After the keynote, Kriegel will join Chris LaPlaca, senior vice president for corporate communications at ESPN, and Steve Arvan, director of Time Warner Cable SportsNet, on a panel to take questions from the audience. LaPlaca is a 1979 SBU graduate.

Other distinguished SBU journalism alums will be on hand for morning workshops, including Adrian Wojnarowski, '91, who will join fellow Yahoo! Sports writer Dan Wetzel from 10:30-11:45 a.m. in Plassmann 210 to take "A Behind-the-Scenes Look at the UConn Basketball Scandal."

Mike Vaccaro, '89, columnist of the New York Post, and Jeff D'Alessio, '91, editor in chief of The Sporting News, will discuss "How to Succeed in Sports Journalism" from 10:30-11:45 a.m. in Plassmann 202.

Kriegel, formerly of the New York Daily News, is the national columnist for FOXSports.com and the author of two New York Times best sellers: "Namath: A Biography" and "Pistol: The Life of Pete Maravich," which Sports Illustrated called "the best sports biography of the year."

Kriegel has been a columnist at the New York Post, New York Daily News, a contributing writer for Esquire magazine, and the author of a novel, "Bless Me Father." He grew up in New York City and lives in Santa Monica, Calif., with his daughter.

The symposium, held on campus every other spring, is named in honor of the late Richard "Dick" Joyce, a 1960 graduate of St. Bonaventure. Joyce worked for United Press International, NBC and the New York World-Telegram & Sun before joining The

Associated Press in 1968.

The Brooklyn native covered horse racing and college basketball for the AP for 20 years. Joyce died in 1988 at the age of 53.

The John Domino Award will be presented at the symposium to a St. Bonaventure graduate who has excelled in the field of sports journalism and communication. The winner won't be revealed until the day of the event.

Domino graduated from St. Bonaventure in 1984 and worked for NBC Sports before joining ESPN. He was regarded as one of the growing sports network's brightest personalities when he left to return to the Buffalo area to join the Empire Sports Network.

Domino told friends he was coming back to Buffalo because someone in the family was battling cancer. He never said it was him. Domino died in 1994.

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Students to present program on "Climate Change Awareness"

St. Bonaventure students Alyssa Sparatta, '09, Morgan Beacker, '10, and Johnathan Nuttall, '09, will present a talk on "Climate Change Awareness" at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 21, in the auditorium of the William F. Walsh Science Center.

The presenters hope to facilitate a discussion in order to educate the community about a person's relationship with the environment, and stimulate ideas of how people can make their lives more sustainable.

"We believe that climate change is an important issue facing the world today. Universities in the United States have a special responsibility to address the issue," Sparatta said.

This event is free and open to the public and is sponsored by the Franciscan Center for Social Concern at St. Bonaventure University.

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VITA exceeds last year's record

St. Bonaventure University accounting students have successfully completed another tax season, gaining valuable work experience while helping the local community.

Students in VITA, Volunteer Income Tax Assistance, set a new record with \$750,000 in tax refunds for local taxpayers this year, a near 25 percent increase from last year's total of \$600,000.

VITA allows students to provide free income tax preparation and E-filing to local community members with low or moderate income who are eligible for Earned Income Tax Credit.

“VITA is an outstanding educational experience for our students,” said Dr. Susan Anders, CPA, professor of accounting and VITA supervisor. “We are preparing real tax returns for real taxpayers, and bringing real refund dollars into the community.”

Other schools only dedicate a few weekends to VITA, but St. Bonaventure students spend eight weeks in the local community, acting as a commercial tax preparation firm.

“We were comparable to a small- to mid-sized accounting firm for the eight weeks of our tax season,” Anders said. “For those eight weeks, we had the equivalent of five full-time tax professionals working 40 hours a week.”

Each year, VITA works with Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) and the Bonaventure Accounting Association to gather 80 students who work a combined total of 2,000 volunteer hours during tax season.

The completion of the 2009 tax season marks VITA’s sixth year, totaling 1,500 tax returns with \$2.35 million in tax refunds.

VITA also works with the United Way of Cattaraugus County and Department of Social Services to set up an advertised tax preparation site at the Olean Mall.

For more information on VITA, visit <http://www.sbu.edu/business.aspx?id=5626&terms=VITA>.

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Syracuse Symphony Orchestra returns to SBU's Quick Center with violinist Philippe Quint

Syracuse Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Samuel Wong and featuring violinist Philippe Quint, will perform at 7:30 p.m. Friday, April 17, at St. Bonaventure University’s Regina A. Quick Center for the Arts.

The concert is being presented by Friends of Good music in association with The Quick Center. Quint will perform the rhapsodic Violin Concerto in D-Major by Erich Wolfgang Korngold. The evening will also feature the popular symphony “From the New World” by Dvorák.

Syracuse Symphony Orchestra returns to The Quick Center with guest conductor Samuel Wong (left) and violinist Philippe Quint (right).

The program promises to be a “crowd pleaser,” said Joseph A. LoSchiavo, executive director of The Quick Center. “The Czech composer Antonin Dvorák’s ‘Symphony from the New World’ has become one of the most popular pieces of classical music among American audiences. And we are fortunate to hear the dynamic Philippe Quint’s rendition of Korngold’s Violin Concerto before he records it for Naxos Records later this year. The Syracuse Symphony Orchestra’s concerts at The Quick Center are firmly established as audience favorites and we are grateful for the symphony’s continued support in touring to communities in Western New York.”

Syracuse Symphony Orchestra began in 1961 as a community orchestra and quickly evolved into a fully professional resident orchestra serving central and northern New York state. An ensemble of national acclaim, the symphony boasts 79 musicians and a conducting staff of international caliber. It performs 193 full-orchestra and chamber ensemble concerts throughout central and northern New York, reaching more than 225,000 audience members during its 39-week season.

Guest conductor Wong first came to international attention with his New York Philharmonic debut in 1990. In addition to having held music directorships with the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra, Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra and the New York Youth Symphony, Wong has appeared as guest conductor with the major orchestras of Toronto, Montreal, New York, Seattle, Houston, London (Royal Philharmonic), Brussels, Prague, Tel Aviv, Tokyo (Japan Philharmonic), Italy (Milan, Palermo, Rome) and Spain (Valencia, Bilbao). He made his operatic debut conducting Rossini's "The Barber of Seville" with the Canadian Opera Company. In 1997, he led performances of Verdi's "Rigoletto" in Beijing as part of the Hennessey Opera Series.

Violinist Quint was born of a rich musical heritage in St. Petersburg, Russia. He left the former Soviet Union in 1991 and is now an American citizen. He studied at Juilliard with the legendary Dorothy Delay and amassed top prizes at many international competitions. Coming concert highlights include a debut with the Weimar Staatskapelle, as well as a series of recitals in London, Edinburgh, Boston, Atlanta, Nancy (France) and Carnegie Hall in New York.

He will also release two CDs on the Naxos label: John Corigliano's world premiere recording of "The Red Violin Caprices," as well as the Korngold Violin Concerto with Carlos Miguel Prieto conducting the Orchestra de Minería. His debut album including William Schuman's Violin Concerto earned him two Grammy Award nominations.

This performance is supported in part by the New York State Council on the Arts. For tickets and information please call the QCA at (716) 375-2494. Season ticket holders who are not able to attend the concert are asked to let the box office know so the tickets can be given to students.

This performance concludes Friends of Good Music's Classical Music Series. Its World Music Series concludes Wednesday, May 6, with "Music From India," featuring sarod player Aditya Verma, a performance rescheduled from earlier this year.

For each Friends of Good Music performance, The Quick Center galleries open an hour before the performance and remain open throughout intermission. Regular gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and noon to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. The museum is open to the public year round at no cost.

For more information, go to www.sbu.edu/quickcenter.

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BonaResponds ready for largest service weekend

BonaResponds, St. Bonaventure University's disaster relief group, is at it again and calling all volunteers for its first three-day Local Service Weekend, April 24-26.

The group is ready to end the semester on a high note, enjoying the spring weather while helping the St. Bonaventure, Olean and Allegany communities before exam time begins.

"The local service days show that we don't have to travel 2,600 miles to make a difference," Dr. Jim Mahar, associate professor of finance and founder of BonaResponds, said. "There are plenty of opportunities to change lives around here."

The Local Service Weekend will begin on Friday morning, when Liberty Partners, a group of about 50 at-risk students from

Olean, will visit St. Bonaventure to experience life on a college campus. St. Bonaventure student volunteers will give campus tours and educate the high school students on college life.

These students and volunteers will also participate in a project modeled after the national No Child Left Inside program, which promotes wellness through physical activity. Activities will include hiking, kickball and volleyball.

Friday will end around 4 p.m. with a cleanup at Mt. Hermanns in conjunction with the Olean Hiking Group.

On Saturday and Sunday, BonaResponds will work at several sites, including Allegheny River Valley Trail, Cattaraugus County SPCA, City of Olean, Bob's Woods, Mt. Irenaeus and St. Bonaventure. Volunteers will be spread throughout a wide variety of projects, including landscaping, painting community areas and rebuilding houses.

On Saturday, volunteers will meet at 10:30 a.m. in Dresser Auditorium in the John J. Murphy Professional Building. At 4:30 p.m., the day will end with a free barbeque for volunteers. Similarly, on Sunday the day will start at 11 a.m. in the auditorium and end at 5 p.m. with a barbeque. Volunteers will receive bagged lunches both days.

The group expects the weekend to draw its largest number of volunteers for its local service days yet. Even BonaResponds celebrities will be in attendance, including Randy and Debbie May, founders of Randy's Rangers, one of the first disaster-relief camps established in Mississippi after Hurricane Katrina struck in 2005. The group has worked with Randy several times and even helped build the current volunteer camp in Pass Christian, Miss.

In addition, BonaResponds recently launched its new Web site at www.bonaresponds.org. Here, volunteers can sign up for one day or the whole weekend.

BonaResponds was created in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. It has taken more 500 volunteers around the country and led just as many volunteers in service projects throughout Western New York. BonaResponds aims to be a world-class organization whose mission is to help people in need as well as to build better leaders and better communities. The group, comprised of students, faculty, staff, alumni and local residents, is run completely through donations.

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Newsmakers for Spring 2009

Dr. Robert Amico, professor of philosophy, was an invited speaker at the "Whiteness and Privilege Symposium" at California State University at Long Beach on April 14, 2009. His paper is titled "The Costs of White Privilege."

Student Brianna N. Bricker of Albion, Pa., had a paper titled "Sponsorship in College Football Bowls" accepted in the online version of the new St. Bonaventure journal of student academic writing. Her paper, nominated by Dr. Michael Russell, also received an honorable mention award.

Dr. Carl J. Case, professor of management science, Darwin L. King, professor of accounting, and Kimberly DeSimone, lecturer of marketing, presented their paper “Virtual Worlds: An Exploratory Study of Undergraduate Behavior ” at the Allied Academies 2009 Spring International Conference held in New Orleans, La., on April 8-10, 2009. The paper was also published in the Academy for Studies in Business Proceedings.

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Friday Forum

All SBU faculty, staff and administrators are welcome to Friday Forums.

Date: April 17, 2009

Speaker: Mike Hoffman

Time: 12:20 to 1:30 p.m.

Place: University Club

Topic: To Moodle, or not to Moodle?

Abstract: Moodle is more than a funny name (remember what you first thought of Google?). Moodle, an open-source learning management system similar to WebCT, has been undergoing pilot testing at SBU this semester by a group of faculty. Come hear why SBU is considering a switch and learn a bit more about Moodle from the faculty who have been testing it.

Cost: \$3

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